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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/654,146	09/01/2000	Roy Hays	181138004US	5790

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EXAMINER

BARQADLE, YASIN M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2153

DATE MAILED: 04/08/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/654,146

Applicant(s)

HAYS ET AL.

Examiner

Yasin M Barqadle

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 September 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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**DETAILED ACTION**

Claims 1-12 are presented for examination.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hunt et al U.S. Patent (6496855).

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As per claim 1, Hunt et al teach a computer-based method for registering users of a central computer system (fig. 2), the method comprising:

collecting at a remote computer system (fig. 1, 1) information relating to a user who wants to register at the central computer system (fig. 2, 4) [col. 2, lines 19-33 and col. 7, lines 28-41];

sending the collected information from the remote computer system to the central computer system [col. 2, lines 19-33 and col. 6, lines 1-11];

receiving at the central computer system a request from the user to register, the request including identification data [col. 2, lines 19-33];

locating the collected information for the user using the identification data included in the request [col. 2, lines 47-60]; and

indicating that the user is registered and associating the located information with the registered user [col. 8, lines 35-42].

As per claim 2, Hunt et al teach the method of claim 1 wherein the collected information includes an electronic mail address [col. 7, lines 34-43] and including sending an electronic mail message to the electronic mail address with instructions for registering at the central computer system [col. 6, lines 1-11 and col. 7, lines 11-43].

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As per claim 3, Hunt et al teach the method of claim 2 wherein the electronic mail message includes a link to web page of the central computer system [col. 7, lines 28-43 and col.8, line 15-43].

As per claim 4, Hunt et al teach the method of claim 2 wherein the electronic message includes a link that identifies the information collected for the user [col. 7, lines 28-43 and col.8, line 15-43].

As per claim 5, Hunt et al teach the method of claim 1 where the request includes information for identifying the remote computer system [col.4, line 60 to col. 5, line 11].

As per claims 6 and 10, Hunt et al teach a method and a computer-readable medium in a remote computer system for collecting information for users who are not registered with a central computer system (fig. 2 and col. 7, lines 11-43), the method comprising:

receiving the information from a user and storing the received information [col. 1, lines 56-67 and col. 7, lines 28-41];

determining whether the user is registered with the central computer system [col. 7, lines 11-43 and col. 8, lines 15-39]; when the user is not registered, receiving identification data from the user [col. 7, lines 11-43]; and

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sending the stored information with the received identification data to the central computer system so that the central computer system can effect the registration of the user and association of the information with that user [col. 2, lines 19-60].

As per claims 7 and 11, Hunt et al teach the invention wherein the central computer system sends an electronic mail message to the user that provides registration instructions.

As per claims 8 and 12, Hunt et al teach the invention including when the user is not registered, asking the user whether they want to register [col. 7, line 28-51 and col.8, line 15-43].

As per claim 9, Hunt et al teach the invention wherein the identification data includes an electronic mail address [col. 7, lines 34-43].

### **Conclusion**

The prior made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yasin

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Bargadle whose telephone number is 703-305-5971. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn Burgess can be reached on 703-305-4792. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306 for regular communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

Yasin Bargadle

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